



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,858	12/14/2004	Hassan Mohammad	222.1105	1242
23280	7590	09/18/2007	EXAMINER	
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC			EBERHARD, JEFFREY S	
485 SEVENTH AVENUE, 14TH FLOOR				
NEW YORK, NY 10018			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1609	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/517,858	MOHAMMAD, HASSAN	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jeffrey S. Eberhard, Ph.D.	1609	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2004.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
     1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
     2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
     3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/14/2004</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
|   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Specification***

1. This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The instant claim recites “An extruded pharmaceutical product according to claim 2, wherein the sheet is extruded as a shaped sheet.”

The term “shaped” as it is used in the claim renders the subject matter of the claim indefinite. An ordinary practitioner of the art is unable to practice the claimed invention because the term “shaped” is generic, and there is inadequate guidance in the specification to allow the ordinary practitioner to render the sheet into a specific shape.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Newton (US 4,938,967).

The instant claims recite “an extruded pharmaceutical product for retention in the stomach.” Claim 8 further recites that the invention of claim 1 may be “comprising a filled capsule.”

Newton teaches a pharmaceutical product for retention in the stomach, “[a] pharmaceutical dosage form...that will permit controlled release of a pharmaceutically active ingredient into the stomach...over a prolonged period of time” (column 1 lines 4-9). Newton further teaches that the product may be extruded (column 10, lines 65-68), and comprise a capsule which contains individual units which can be small pellets (column 1, lines 10-17).

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1- 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton in view of Kropa (US 2,531,134).

The teachings of Newton are discussed above; they also include “hydratable polymers” as taught in the instant claims. Specifically, Newton teaches a number of embodiments comprising

Art Unit: 1609

hydratable cellulosic polymers (see *e.g.*, Example 1, column 14, line 55 *et seq.*). Cellulose based polymers are art recognized as hydratable. Newton does not teach polymers in tube or sheet form, nor does it teach sheets *the can be folded, rolled, or otherwise compacted.*

Kropa teaches polymer “sheet stock” that can be subject to “pressing, swaging and bending” (column 17, lines 73-74), and further teaches that the polymer recited may be “extruded or otherwise formed into tubes” (column 18, lines 18-19).

The artisan of ordinary skill would use the methods of polymer forming taught by Kropa to modify the extruded pharmaceutical product of Newton such that the resulting embodiment would be of such a size and shape as to allow it to be swallowed as part of a solid oral dosage form. Upon reaching the stomach, said embodiment could then unroll, unbend, or unfold to assume a configuration that would delay or preclude its expulsion from the stomach.

***Application Status and Examiner Contact Information***

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 1609

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey S. Eberhard, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 270-3289. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am to 4:00 pm EDT.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Stucker can be reached on (571) 272-0911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Jeffrey S. Eberhard, Ph.D.  
Patent Examiner



JEFFREY STUCKER  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER